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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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L A T E C A B L E S . . .

Japan second official estimate of 1938 crops reported as follows, with 1937 comparisons in parentheses: Wheat 45,244,000 bushels (50,410,000); barley 63,181,000 bushels (72,446,000). (Shanghai office, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.)

Union of South Africa 1938-39 wheat area sown by Europeans estimated at 2,084,000 acres as compared with 1,751,000 acres last season; production forecast at 17,416,000 bushels as compared with 10,157,000 bushels harvested in 1937-38. (International Institute of Agriculture, Rome.)

Egyptian cotton ginnings through October amounted to 571,000 bales of 478 pounds net of which 422,000 bales were Ashmouni and Zagora varieties. This compares with 736,000 bales through October 1937, Ashmouni and Zagora amounting to 511,000 bales, and a final total through June 1938 of 2,241,000 bales, excluding linters (Scarto). (International Institute of Agriculture, Rome.)

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Argentine Government Fixes Prices for Wheat and Flaxseed

By a decree, effective November 14, the Argentine Government established the price of wheat at 7.00 pesos and of flaxseed at 13.00 pesos per 100 kilos (60 cents and \$1.04 per bushel, respectively), according to a cable from the Buenos Aires office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. These are the basic minimum prices at Buenos Aires for the 1938-39 crops only. Premiums and discounts from the basic price will be made for variations in quality and for deliveries at other ports as was the case when prices were fixed for these grains in previous years. Returns to farmers will be somewhat under the prices fixed, depending upon the distance from point of production to port of delivery. Wheat of corresponding grade was quoted at 6.25 pesos (53 cents per bushel) on the free market the day the decree went into effect.

Summary of Current Information on 1938 Grain Crops

Recent revisions of 1938 production estimates of wheat in 36 Northern Hemisphere countries reported reduce the total crop of these countries by about 8,000,000 bushels to 3,793,178,000 bushels, which compares with the 1937 total of 3,295,103,000 bushels. The second official estimate of the Canadian crop, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on November 10, was 10,333,000 bushels smaller than the September estimate, largely because threshing returns in the Province of Saskatchewan were less than anticipated.

Reductions also have been reported by the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome for Rumania, the Netherlands, and Finland. The first official estimate of Polish wheat production, however, was placed at 84,142,000 bushels, an increase of 3,342,000 bushels over the figure reported by the Berlin office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, based on crop conditions prevailing earlier in the season, and the estimate for Luxemburg was increased by 201,000 bushels.

No official estimates of the Southern Hemisphere wheat crop have been received, but indications point to a marked increase in Argentine production over that of the past season when the crop was below average. Dry weather has reduced prospects in Australia, but the total Southern Hemisphere crop probably will be larger than that of 1937-38.

The 1938 rye crop of 30 countries for which estimates have been received totals 1,044,154,000 bushels as compared with 891,956,000 bushels harvested by the same countries in 1937. The Canadian estimate was reduced by 1,250,000 bushels and that of Finland by 200,000 bushels, but the Polish crop is now placed 6,426,000 bushels above earlier expectations, and slight increases have been reported for Italy, Estonia, and Luxemburg.

Recent changes in production estimates of wheat and rye,
1938, with comparisons

Commodity or country	Reported up to October 22, 1938	Reported up to November 19, 1938	1937
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
<u>Wheat</u>			
36 countries reported.... a/	3,801,227		
Canada.....	358,433	348,100	182,410
Poland.....	80,800	84,142	70,775
Netherlands.....	15,432	15,138	12,555
Finland.....	7,643	7,602	7,665
Luxemburg.....	1,233	1,434	1,206
Rumania.....	183,933	183,009	138,159
36 countries reported....		3,793,178	3,295,103
<u>Rye</u>			
28 countries reported.... a/	1,017,710		
Canada.....	12,365	11,115	5,771
Poland.....	266,000	272,426	221,949
Luxemburg.....	426	451	392
Italy.....	5,333	5,437	5,701
Estonia.....	6,929	6,937	8,327
Finland.....	14,054	13,854	16,982
Turkey.....		21,259	18,822
Algeria.....		72	37
30 countries reported....		1,044,154	891,956

a/ Slightly revised by minor changes.

The 1938 oat crop of Canada, according to the November estimate, is now placed at 400,897,000 bushels, a reduction of nearly 17,000,000 bushels from the September figure but considerably above the 1937 harvest of 285,220,000 bushels. The barley crop was reduced by over 6,000,000 bushels but is 24 percent larger than the 1937 crop of 83,124,000 bushels. Flaxseed declined by 222,100 bushels but the November estimate is nearly twice as large as the 1937 crop of 697,600 bushels. The 1938 feed-grain production of Poland and Turkey is also estimated considerably above that of last season. See table, page 363.

The Japanese Wheat Market

Western White was the cheapest foreign wheat available in the Japanese market on November 1, according to information furnished the Shanghai office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by United States Consul T.A. Hickok at Tokyo. Quotations of both foreign and domestic wheat were higher than a month earlier, stocks on hand were ample, and mills were operating at their normal capacity. Practically no wheat was imported into Japan during September. The domestic flour market was inactive.

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Exports of Japanese flour during September were considerably smaller than those of the previous month and totaled only 193,000 barrels, of which 159,000 barrels went to Manchuria and the remainder to China. In September 1937, flour exports amounted to 251,000 barrels, and over 600,000 bushels of wheat were imported. Prices of wheat at the mill on November 1, import duty and landing charges included, were quoted as follows: Western White No. 2, \$1.02 per bushel; Canadian No. 1, \$1.08, No. 3, \$1.03; Australian (nominal) \$1.11; Manchurian (nominal) \$2.01 per bushel. Domestic standard was \$1.32 per bushel; Portland wheat, c.i.f. Yokohama, \$0.68, duty and landing charges excluded. The wholesale price of flour at the mill was \$1.37 per bag of 49 pounds; c.i.f. Dairen, \$1.40; c.i.f. Tangku, \$1.19 per bag.

Frosts Damage Argentine Grapes

Heavy frosts in late October caused heavy damage to the vineyards of the Province of Mendoza, Argentina, it was reported by Charles L. Luedtke, acting agricultural attache at Buenos Aires. The authorities have been making an investigation to determine the exact extent of the damage, but it was estimated to be 60 - 70 percent.

The Province of Mendoza contains approximately two-thirds of the vineyard area of the country and, together with the Province of San Juan produces the bulk of the commercial grape crop of Argentina. Most of the grapes produced in Mendoza, however, are wine grapes; less than 10 percent of the vineyards in that Province are of table and raisin-grape varieties.

A large part of Argentina's total grape exports are shipped to this country, where they are received during the winter and early spring months. The reported damage in Mendoza, however, even if the present estimates should be confirmed, will probably not seriously affect the volume of table grapes that will be available for export. Of the total volume of grapes exported to the United States during the 1938 season, more than half came from the Province of San Juan. Although the production of table grapes in the Provinces of San Juan and Mendoza is substantially the same, the Province of San Juan will probably be able to increase exports of table grapes over former years if prices and demand should warrant.

Chile Limits Shipments of Winter Melons to New York City Market

An official decree issued by the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture fixes the maximum shipments of melons to the New York City market at 167,000 crates between December 15, 1938, and April 30, 1939, according to Camden L. McLain, American vice consul at Santiago, Chile. Shipments to United States markets other than New York City, however, are not

restricted. The seasonal quota has been established in order to avoid shipment of Chilean melons in excess of market demands.

During the calendar year 1937, 140,000 crates were exported from Chile to the United States as compared with 151,000, a year earlier. A filled crate weighs from 15 to 19 kilograms (33 to 42 pounds) and contains 6 to 12 melons, depending upon the size and type of crate.

Central and north-central Chile have been suffering from a serious drought in recent months. Growers state that, although a shortage may occur in the early melons usually shipped from the north-central zone, the quota can be filled with later melons from the Valparaiso-Santiago area.

Cuban Tomato Crop Damaged in Province of Pinar del Rio

High winds during the last week of October that caused excessive evaporation and withered plants reduced the prospective tomato yields in Pinar del Rio Province by approximately 25 percent, according to American Consul Harold S. Tewell at Habana. Present indications are that exports will not reach the volume attained during the months of November and December last year. The season, however, is about 2 weeks earlier than usual - probably the earliest ever known in Cuba - and, while a few shipments already have been made to the United States, it is expected that a sufficient part of the crop will have matured to warrant heavy shipments by November 15. In former years the shipping season usually has only begun on that date.

HOGS AND PORK PRODUCTS: Foreign and domestic average price per 100 pounds, September 1938, with comparisons

Item	1909-1913 average Dollars	1925-1929 average Dollars	Sept. 1937 Dollars	Aug. 1938 Dollars	Sept. 1938 Dollars
Hogs, Chicago, basis packers' and shippers' quotations.....	8.15	11.36	11.37	7.76	8.35
Corn, Chicago, No. 3 Yellow...	1.23	1.67	1.89	0.96	0.94
Lard -					
Chicago.....	11.24	15.95	13.05	8.97	8.91
Liverpool.....	12.50	15.59	14.36	10.14	10.33
Cured pork, Liverpool -					
American short cut green hams	14.50	26.03	23.80	21.16	20.09
American green bellies.....	-	23.17	Nom.	14.72	14.47
Danish Wiltshire sides.....	16.70	26.08	22.92	22.04	21.22
Canadian green sides.....	15.69	24.70	21.70	20.73	20.03

HOGS AND PORK PRODUCTS: Indices of foreign supplies and demand,
October-September, 1934-35 to 1937-38

October-September, 1934-35 to 1937-38							
Country and item	Unit	October-September					
		1909-10 to 1913-14 average	1924-25 to 1928-29 average	1934-35	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
UNITED KINGDOM:							
Supplies, domestic	1,000						
fresh pork, London	pounds	-	54,639	75,221	80,910	76,247	66,760
Imports -							
Bacon -							
Denmark.....	"	246,250	502,406	440,241	389,512	375,202	383,177
Irish Free State.	"	-	54,347	49,583	55,567	57,883	59,502
United States....	"	184,037	104,767	2,889	1,992	1,165	2,554
Canada.....	"	42,948	76,357	103,984	103,308	157,051	143,150
Total.....	"	517,035	902,218	792,239	730,989	767,337	770,206
Ham -							
United States....	"	-	-	48,032	39,282	31,306	45,487
Total.....	"	96,675	127,520	75,897	75,181	73,869	76,602
Lard, total.....	"	210,237	267,076	204,284	163,881	156,642	173,868
CANADA:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected...	1,000's	1,687	2,563	2,802	3,136	3,929	-
GERMANY:							
Imports -							
Bacon, total.....	1,000 pounds	2,728	16,898	26,980	24,351	22,030	15,568
Lard, total.....	"	198,843	217,286	55,767	83,067	64,899	97,198
UNITED STATES:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected...	1,000's	31,644	46,066	30,389	31,022	34,151	34,580
Exports -							
Bacon -	1,000						
United Kingdom...	pounds	130,737	64,747	1,553	1,154	731	1,772
Germany.....	"	1,497	11,278	0	29	0	169
Cuba.....	"	8,138	20,386	4,390	1,478	751	1,086
Total.....	"	181,314	140,742	7,727	3,980	2,704	7,523
Hams, shoulders -							
United Kingdom...	"	140,392	140,761	49,355	39,521	30,801	45,841
Total.....	"	163,966	167,766	58,357	45,071	35,918	52,627
Lard -							
United Kingdom...	"	169,138	225,342	97,595	61,258	54,792	131,948
Germany.....	"	137,720	192,304	2,513	6,696	1,762	2,647
Cuba.....	"	38,426	80,361	29,437	25,905	34,455	48,328
Netherlands.....	"	36,408	40,429	10	64	37	149
Total.....	"	468,416	722,124	140,717	100,406	95,721	207,616

COTTON: Price per pound of representative raw cotton at Liverpool,
November 11, 1938, with comparisons

Growth	1938							
	September		October				November	
	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
American -								a/
Middling.....	9.52	9.64	9.98	10.34	10.30	10.33	10.10	10.07
Low Middling.....	8.22	8.33	8.69	9.06	9.01	9.04	8.91	a/3.88
Egyptian (Fully Good Fair) -								
Sakellaridis.....	15.84	16.32	15.93	16.38	16.81	16.58	16.86	16.32
Uppers.....	12.26	12.45	12.76	13.10	13.16	13.05	12.89	12.66
Brazilian (Fair) -								
Ceara.....	8.62	8.63	8.99	9.25	9.21	9.24	9.10	9.02
Sao Paulo.....	9.22	9.24	9.58	9.85	9.80	9.83	9.70	9.71
East Indian -								
Broach (Fully Good).....	7.42	7.27	7.53	7.60	7.68	7.71	7.70	7.71
C.P. Oomra No. 1,								a/
Superfine.....	7.66	7.51	7.77	7.83	7.92	7.94	7.93	7.85
Sind (Fully Good).....	6.76	6.61	6.83	6.91	6.98	7.01	7.00	7.02
Peruvian (Good) -								
Tanguis.....	12.52	12.45	12.78	13.00	12.98	13.01	-	-

Converted at current exchange rates.

a/ Price per pound at Liverpool, November 10.

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton to principal foreign markets,
annual 1936-37 and 1937-38, and the seasons
August 1-November 10, 1937 and 1938 a/
(Running bales)

Country to which exported	Year ended July 31		August 1 - November 10	
	1936-37	1937-38	1937	1938
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
United Kingdom.....	1,221	1,630	652	165
Continental Europe.....	2,594	3,047	1,262	762
Total Europe.....	3,815	4,677	1,914	927
Japan.....	1,593	728	96	288
Other countries.....	380	541	126	99
Total.....	5,788	5,946	2,136	1,314
Linters.....	277	270	73	61
Total excluding linters	5,511	5,676	2,063	1,253

Compiled from the Weekly Stock and Movement Report, New York Cotton Exchange.
a/ Includes linters.

BUTTER: New Zealand grading, 1938-39 season to November 5,
with comparisons

Date	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
<u>Week ended</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
August 6.....	2,016	1,792	1,708
13.....	2,811	2,688	2,072
20.....	3,366	3,416	2,817
27.....	4,032	3,808	3,360
Monthly total...	12,225	11,704	9,957
September 3.....	5,040	4,816	3,864
10.....	5,544	5,488	4,368
17.....	5,880	6,272	4,928
24.....	6,664	6,944	5,544
Monthly total...	23,128	23,520	18,704
October 1.....	7,560	7,896	5,936
8.....	8,120	8,008	6,776
15.....	8,960	8,680	7,706
22.....	9,744	9,744	8,120
29.....	9,520	9,016	8,344
Monthly total...	43,904	43,344	36,882
November 5.....	10,360	10,584	8,764
Total to November 5	89,617	89,152	74,307

Agricultural Attaché C. C. Taylor, London.

BUTTER: Australian grading, 1938-39 season to October 15,
with comparisons

Date	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
<u>Week ended</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
July 9-August 27	8,798	8,337	15,058
September 3.....	2,612	1,693	2,345
10.....	2,639	2,083	3,553
17.....	3,060	3,026	4,099
24.....	3,759	3,642	4,101
Monthly total...	12,070	10,444	14,098
October 1.....	3,721	3,842	5,340
8.....	4,059	4,467	4,789
15.....	4,731	4,870	5,540
Total to October 15	33,379	31,960	44,825

Weekly Dairy Produce Notes, Imperial Economic Committee, London.

BUTTER: Price per pound in New York, San Francisco, Copenhagen, and London, November 10, 1938, with comparisons

Market and description	November 11,	November 3,	November 10,
	1937	1938	1938
	Cents	Cents	Cents
New York, 92 score.....	a/ 37.5	26.2	26.2
San Francisco, 92 score.....	a/ 36.5	28.0	28.0
Copenhagen, official quotation	27.9	23.4	23.4
London:			
Danish.....	33.6	28.8	28.9
New Zealand.....	30.5	24.2	23.2
Netherland.....	31.0	23.6	23.5

Foreign prices converted at current rates of exchange. a/ November 10.

PORK PRODUCTS: Price per 100 pounds at Liverpool, November 11, 1938, with comparisons a/

Market and item	Week ended		
	November 12,	November 4,	November 11,
	1937	1938	1938
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
First quality -			
American green bellies.....	Nominal	15.51	15.55
Danish Wiltshire sides.....	20.55	20.18	19.99
Canadian green sides.....	19.10	20.28	17.97
American short cut green			
hams.....	20.96	20.50	19.94
American refined lard.....	13.72	9.91	9.96

Quotations are on the basis of sales from importer to wholesaler.

a/ Converted at current rate of exchange.

POLAND AND TURKEY: Production of specified crops, 1932-1938

Year	Poland			Turkey		
	Barley	Oats	Potatoes	Barley	Oats	Potatoes
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
1932.....	64,339	164,713	1,101,364	53,221	8,729	2,638
1933.....	65,949	184,838	1,040,934	73,420	14,292	3,926
1934.....	66,617	175,729	1,229,815	76,810	10,940	7,832
1935.....	67,440	178,981	1,194,222	62,992	15,983	3,885
1936.....	64,365	181,886	1,259,609	98,918	14,846	6,791
1937.....	62,620	161,410	1,477,849	104,949	16,583	-
1938.....	66,138	178,435	1,238,985	118,727	23,286	10,619

International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, and official sources.

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